

NEVVES FROM SPAIN

J. W. Ireland



LONDON:

Printed for WILLIAM BLACKWALL, and are to be sold at
his shop over against Guild-hall gate. 1618.

FROM SPAIN
REVUES



London

A
TRUE RELATION
OF THE LAMENTABLE

Accidents, caused by the Inun-
dation and rising of Ebro, Lobregat,
Cinca and Segre, Rivers of
SPAIN E.

Together with
A Narration of a fearefull Storme,
which happened the third of November,
in the yeare 1617. in the Hauen and
Port of BARCELONA.

Written originally in Spanish by V. Rejaule the
Kings Aduocate.

Printed by Authoritie at *Valentia*, and now
Translated into English.



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1618.





NEWES FROM *S P A I N E.*



If it be true (as it is infallible) that the Lord our God, before hee chastiseth vs rigorously, onely for his infinite mercies sake, vseth to admonish vs, and giue vs many warnings, that so wee might cease to offend and prouoke him: it is then a most certaine signe, that when the warnings (which God giues) are great and fearefull, that then our sinnes are very great and haynous, and consequently the chastisement which wee deserue for them, must needes be great and terrible. Among many other warnings in this latter age, one of the greatest hath

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beene the strange inundations which of late haue happened in the Riuer of *Ebro*, *Lobregat*, *Segre*, *Cinca*, and other Streames issuing and branching from them; the discourse whereof, though it be short, and would affect more being seene then related, yet the rising and swelling of these waters, being so strange and notable, the particulars so certaine, and the losses proceeding thence so lamentable, I haue thought it not amisse to set them downe in writing.

In *Tortosa* the 22. of *October* 1617. the heauens being over-cast with thicke and darke clouds, it beganne to raine, and so continued for the space of thirteene dayes together, whereby on the first of *November*, the water rose so extreame, that all men began greatly to feare, insomuch that euery one thought that the diuine Maiestie would now punish the world with a second Deluge: for this day the waters rose so extreame, that the high-ways were couered; the lower grounds remained, I know not how many dayes, as so many great ri-
uers,

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uers; or little seas, without all meanes of passing them. Which fell out in such manner, that in the hills and high-ways were afterwards found the dead bodies of many men which were drowned in these waters:



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and in the ditches and lower grounds were found dead an infinite number of Cattell, as well Sheepe, as Horses, Mules, Asses, Oxen and Kine; Dogges, Partridges, Conies, euen vnto Wolues and Foxes, and many other wilde beasts.

But that which affrighted most, and caused the greatest terrour to all men, was, when the Riuer of *Ebro* beganne to rise, in such sort, that the Inhabitants of *Tortosa* beganne to feare that it would carry away their Citie. For now at the beginning of its rising, (which was about the shutting in of the day) that which the Riuer had already set afloat, as chests, doores, beds, tables, stooles, and infinite other things, did evidently shew the lamentable spoyle it had made vpon the bankes where the Riuer had passed.

Which they of *Tortosa* seeing, after many Processions, Prayers, Letanies, ^a at last they opened the most holy Sacrament in their Churches, crying all for mercy to the diuine Maiestie, desiring that hee would be pleased

^a Rather shold
you haue fixed
the eye of your
Faith & Hope
vpon Christ
seeing as the right
hand of the Fa-
ther.

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pleased to pardon them, and to deliver them from so evident and certaine a danger. The rising of this Riuer continued two whole dayes, carrying away the Bridge of *Tortosa*, and gushing into the Citie, cast downe and carryed away more then an hundred houses. It is impossible to relate the particular damages and spoyle of houses, gardens, and other grounds which stood on the bankes, besides the death of Cattell innumerable.

Moreouer, there was one Country-man which had his house and three hundred Oliue trees, together with many other trees of sundry other kindes carryed away with this violent and mercilesse streame: neyther was there one tree left standing on the Riuer's side.

About some three leagues from the City of *Tortosa* was a small village called *Benifallet*, where after that the floud had drowned many of the Countrey people, which to saue their goods did hazard their liues, at last it carryed away the whole Towne, so

B

that

News from SPAIN.

that of two hundred houses there were left but onely sixteene.

In another little village called *Gerta*, about two leagues from *Tortosa*, of two hundred and fifty houses there remayned but onely seauen.

At *Ginestar* also, which stands about five leagues from *Tortosa*, haue happened many notable and lamentable losses, both in the houses and in the fields. In brieft, so many and so great haue beene the overthrowes all about the Riuer, that in all the places neare adioyning vnto it, not a stone hath beene left vpon a stone, but the poore Inhabitants and dwellers thereabout, are vtterly vadone, being depriued of all their substance.

Praysed be the diuine Maiestie for euer, and mought hee be pleased to appease his anger, that so this punishment may serue for a warning to all sinners, and so procure vnto vs the amendment of our liues.

In

News from SPAIN.



In the Citie of *Barcelona* the third day of
the Month of *November*, in the sea, and port
of the Citie, happened such a storme and
tempest, that the like hath not beene seene

WIND

B 2

in

Nemes from SPAIN E.

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INVOI

B 2

in

News from SPAIN.

in the memory of man. Scarce remayned there a Vessell on the water, which was not at least leaky and sorely bearen: the shrikes and cries of the afflicted Mariners, made the most dolefull noyse in the world, and might haue softened and moued to compassion the most hardened flinty heart. For so high and furious was the winde from the Leuante, that neuer was there seene so terrible and dreadfull a storme; the prayers and supplications of the distressed Mariners and other deuont people (for now all *Barcelona* was come together) caused a great terrour to all. Some cryed out and called for mercy vpon our Lord God Christ Iesus, and in-

^b Why is not Christ sufficient, as for the rest you robbe him of his honour: so that it may iustly bee demanded of you, Who required these things at your hands?

uocated^b his most pittifull Mother the holy Virgin of *Montserrat*, all prayed and called vpon Saint *Telmo*, and the glorious Saint *Eulalia*, and Saint *Matrona*, the Patronesses of *Barcelona*. All the Cleargy of the said Citie came out in Procession, bringing forth the most holy Sacrament with them, which they held two and twenty houres vpon the Bulwarke. All the Conuents also in the

Towne

Newes from SPAIN E.

Towne came forth with very deuout Pro-
cessions, and carryed many Reliques of
Saints, which caused a wonderfull great de-
uotion in all the people. They brought
also the most holy true Crosse to the Sea
side, which they dipt three times in the wa-
ter, vntill it pleased the diuine Maiestie to
be appeased, which was about midnight,
this fearefull storme hauing now endured
fixe and twenty houres, and that in such ex-
tremitie, that it cast a great feare vpon all
the people of *Barcelona*: for it had now con-
tinually rained for the space of more then
thirty dayes together without intermission,
whereupon there succeeded such a floud
from the Riuer *Lobregat*, and that with such
excesse and fury, that it carryed away the
greatest part of the houses and mansions,
with two and twenty turrets or small houses
which stood on the Rivers side, and foure
thousand head of cattell were drowned in
this floud, which were found in the vallies
and lower grounds, but the greatest losse
which this floud caused was in Sheepe.

*See here the
fuge of supersti-
tious and idola-
trous people.*

*c) As you su-
perstitiously do
beleue.*

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In *Lerida* also the fresh or land-floud which came from the Riuer *Segre*, was as violent as the rest, not to speake of the infinite harme which it wrought vpon the lands and houses of such as liued neare the bankes of this Riuer, that which is most^d remarkable was, how in the Citie of *Lerida* these waters swept quite away a whole Conuent of *Trinitarian Friers*, not leauing any the least signe of it behinde: they carryed away also the greatest part of another Conuent of *Augustine Friers*, and almost all the houses of the Suburbs. To be short, so many haue beene the harmes also which these flouds and extraordinary risings of the water haue done in the kingdom of *Catalumna*, that the vnderstanding of man cannot imagine them. Moreouer, besides those many houses which these Riuers haue carryed away, a great number more of houses haue beene ouerthrowne and cast to the ground by the violence and extremitie of those thirtie dayes continuall tempests, and vncessant great raine.

d) Thinke vpon
it seriously, and
you shall finde
that al this was
not without
cause

The

Newes from SPAIN.

The Riuer of *Cinca* also hath done mighty harme in the fields and townes thereabout by its extraordinary swelling and flowing ouer the bankes.

God grant that these chastisements and warnings which hee giues vs, may cause vs to cast from vs all vices, that from henceforward wee may serue him with more truth and sinceritie, that so his holy name may be praised
for euer. *Amen.*

FINIS.



